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NOTES

GINN & CO. announce *The Timon of Lucian*, edited by J. B. Sewall.

LITTELL'S *Living Age* has been reduced in price from eight dollars to six dollars a year.

THE first edition of MacClellan & Dewey's *Psychology of Number* (Appleton) was exhausted within two weeks of its publication.

PROFESSOR GEORGE A. WENTWORTH, author of Wentworth's series of mathematics, has recently returned from an extended tour in Europe.

THE *History of Oratory, from the Age of Pericles to the Present Time*, by Professor Sears, of Brown University, will soon be published by S. C. Griggs & Co.

THE Christmas number of the SCHOOL JOURNAL reflects the holiday season from cover to cover, and is in every way a most attractive and interesting publication.

AN article of exceptional interest, especially to the great student world, is "Student Life at Oxford, England," by Fred Grundy, which appears, finely illustrated, in the December issue of the *Chautauquan*.

D. C. HEATH & CO. have in press, for immediate issue in "Heath's Modern Language Series," *Le Premier Livre de Français*, a little illustrated book intended as a purely conversational introduction to French.

THE December issues of Houghton Mifflin & Co.'s famous Riverside Literature Series are (No. 87), Defoe's "Robinson Crusoe," and (No. 88), Stowe's "Uncle Tom's Cabin." Other classics of equal merit are promised for issue during the remainder of the school year.

A SUGGESTIVE bulletin on Study Clubs is the latest publication of the University of the State of New York. The bulletin describes a somewhat novel form of University Extension, by which clubs of five may enjoy privileges usually accessible only in large centers. The bulletin may be had for 25 cents from the Regent office, Albany, N. Y.

UNDER the sarcastic title, "scientific temperance," President David Starr Jordan contributes to the January *Popular Science Monthly* a scathing denunciation of the women reformers who have forced most unscientific and ill-proportioned requirements as to the teaching of the physiological effects of alcohol and narcotics into the school laws of many states.

PROFESSOR EDMUND J. JAMES who leaves Philadelphia for Chicago, at the beginning of the new year, has resigned the editorship of the *Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science*. Dr. James has been the editor of the *Annals* since its establishment as the organ of the American Academy of Political and Social Science in July, 1890. Under his direction the magazine has been several times enlarged.

ONE is not apt to think of finding Greek manuscripts among Egyptian tombs and ruined monasteries, yet Professor A. H. Sayce tells us in *The Sunday School Times* of November 23, that in certain instances parts of the mummy cases have been found to be composed of fragments of inscribed papyri, perhaps the contents of waste paper baskets which some undertaker had bought. The dates on many of the papyri show that they are the earliest Greek manuscripts known to exist.

WE have received the minutes of the preliminary meeting for organization of the North Central Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools. The organization of this Association is an epoch-marking event in the development of higher education in the Central West. The first full meeting is to be held about April 1, 1896, at The University of Chicago. The executive committee will submit for discussion two most interesting questions: "What Constitutes a Secondary School?" and "What Constitutes a College?"

THE executive committee of the N. E. A., after careful consideration, have unanimously selected Buffalo, N. Y., as the place for the next annual meeting, July 7-11, 1896, provided satisfactory arrangements can be made with the railroads. The desire of the committee has been to locate the meeting in Boston in accordance with the almost unanimous wish of the directory, expressed by letter. It was, however, impossible to secure from the New England organization of railroads better rates than one and a third fare for the round trip. It is believed that the selection of Buffalo most nearly meets the expressed views of the directory.

THE preliminary programme of the meeting of the Department of Superintendence of the National Educational Association, to be held at Jacksonville, Fla., February 18, 19, 20, 1896, offers variety as well as excellence. The meeting last year at Cleveland was a most serious affair, and it led to important results. The Jacksonville meeting will cover a much wider range of topics, but is not likely to be so important in the history of education. It may be more enjoyable. Among the prominent speakers are President J. G. Schurman of Cornell University, Professor B. A. Hinsdale of the University of Michigan, Hon. W. T. Harris, President Chas. De Garmo of Swarthmore College, President J. H. Baker of the University of Colorado, Hon. Chas. R. Skinner, State Superintendent of New York, and Professor John Dewey of the University of Chicago.

It is not beneath the dignity of secondary teachers to take a lively interest in the important and suggestive work now becoming prominent under the general name of "Child Study." There are many lines of this study; the one most neglected so far has been that of long continued, painstaking, scientific observation of a single child, a work that makes such large demands upon the observer that it is no wonder that few have had the courage to undertake it. The best work done in our own country in this line, work that does not suffer by comparison with that done in any land, is that of Miss Millicent Washburn Shinn, the published result of which constitute Nos. 1 and 2 of the University of California studies. The studies are extraordinarily interesting to any student or lover of children. As a contribution to our knowledge of child life their intrinsic value is great, and greater still is their value in the line of suggestion and stimulus to more work of this kind.

THE National Herbart Society for the scientific study of education was organized in Denver at the late meeting of the N. E. A. Its purpose is to study and investigate and discuss important problems in education. Its members do not subscribe strictly to the doctrine of any one leader, but seek for fair and thorough discussion. An executive council of nine members has the control of the society's work. The society was organized for the aggressive discussion and spread of educational doctrines, and it desires to draw into its membership all teachers, students of education, and parents who wish to keep abreast of the best thought and discussion. It publishes a year book six weeks before the N. E. A. meeting, which contains two or more complete monographs on important topics carefully worked out by specialists in educational fields. The year book is sent free to all regular members. In addition to the year book the society, through its secretary, will send free to each member one or more additional pamphlets during the year. Regular yearly membership in the society may be secured by the payment of a one-dollar fee, which should be sent to the secretary at Normal, Ill. The society has just issued a plan of work for local clubs that may also be had of the secretary.

At a meeting of the Eastern Association of Physics Teachers, held in Brookline, Mass., on November 9, an important communication was received from Harvard University respecting the admission requirements in physics. There has long been a feeling on the part of the authorities at Cambridge, as well as among the teachers in secondary schools who have occasion to prepare pupils for the examination in physics, that the requirements for admission need revision. Such revision is being made, and this Association of teachers has been invited to offer suggestions. A committee of five, from as many representative schools in the Association, has accordingly been appointed to prepare a report, for the next meeting, which shall embody such suggestions as they may deem wise to offer. The final report of the Association will be made to the University at a later date. In their effort to secure equitable requirements

and to devise a course of laboratory work which shall meet with the approval of everyone concerned, this committee desires the hearty coöperation of all who are in any way interested in this most important work. Since the physical laboratory work in secondary schools is rapidly becoming of such increasing importance, its value being recognized by all, and since Harvard University has taken the lead in outlining a definite preparatory course, the importance of the contemplated revision is obvious. All teachers who are interested in this matter, and who desire to present their views to the Association of Physics Teachers, are invited to communicate with the secretary, A. B. Kimball, English High School, Worcester, Mass.

CURRENT EDUCATIONAL LITERATURE

STUDIES OF CHILDHOOD. XII. UNDER LAW. By JAMES SULLY. *Popular Science Monthly*, November, 1895.

THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF THE UNITED STATES. Fourth Paper. By F. W. HEWES. *Harper's Weekly*, November 13, 1895.

RECENT TENDENCIES IN THE EDUCATION OF WOMEN. By MARY R. SMITH. *Popular Science Monthly*, November, 1895.

A GENERATION OF COLLEGE WOMEN. By Miss FRANCES M. ABBOTT, *Forum*, November, 1895.

Shows what the subsequent career, after graduation, has been of more than a thousand women who have graduated from Vassar College since the opening, thirty years ago.

PATERNAL AUTHORITY AND ITS DECLINE. By C. P. SEEDEN. *North American Review*, November, 1895.

THE decline of paternal authority is widespread, but nowhere has there been so great an abandonment of control as in America. In compensation there is, however, a growing belief that "*Le pouvoir paternel est plutôt un devoir qu'un pouvoir.*" In recognition of this principle the cost and care of bringing up a child properly have become so great that there is an increasing sentiment in favor of small families, not only on the part of those who pride themselves upon their enlightened selfishness, but among conscientious people who realize the difficulties of bringing up a child in the way he should go. Save in agricultural communities, children seldom render any efficient service to their parents, and the young person adequately fitted for a profession, in most cases, has cost his parents and institutions of learning not less than fifteen or twenty thousand dollars. This excessive tax upon the head of a household and upon the state suggests the possibility of mistaken zeal in inducing young people to abandon the field of manual labor.